

REMARKS

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice;

Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form and to include all the limitations of claim 1 from which claim 2 previously depended;

Claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 10 rather than from claim 1;

Claim 6 has been amended to depend from claim 10 rather than from claim 3, and to delete various verbiage;

Claim 7 has been amended to depend from claim 10 rather than from claim 1;

Claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form and to include all the limitations of claim 1 from which claim 9 previously depended;

Claim 10 has been rewritten in independent form and to include all the limitations of claim 1 from which claim 10 previously depended;

Claims 11, 12, and 13 have each been amended to change the work "and" to the word "or";

Claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form and to include all the limitations of claim 1 from which claim 14 previously depended;

Claim 15 has been rewritten in independent form, and to include all the limitations of claim 1 from which claim 15 previously depended, and to add ending punctuation (i.e. a period ".");

Claims 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 have each been amended to depend from claim 10 rather than from claim 1;

Claim 21 has been added. Support for new claim 21 can be found at least in the written specification at page 13, lines 10-12.

No new matter has been added by way of amendments to the claims or by way of new claims.

Claim Objections:

Claim 15 has been objected to because there is no ending punctuation (i.e. a period "."). Claim 15 has been amended as indicated hereinabove to add a period.

1 That is, claim 15 has been amended as indicated hereinabove to add
2 ending punctuation.

3 Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claim 15
4 be withdrawn.

5 Allowable Subject Matter:

6 Each of claims 2, 6, 9, 10, 14, and 15 has been objected to as being dependent
7 upon a rejected base claim. However, each of those claims would be allowable if
8 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any
9 intervening claims.

10 As indicated hereinabove, each of claims 2, 9, 10, 14, and 15 has been rewritten
11 in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening
12 claims. The Applicants contend that claims 2, 9, 10, 14, and 15 are therefore now in
13 allowable form.

14 In regard to claim 6, the Applicants have elected to amend that claim, which
15 amendment includes changing the dependency of that claim from claim 3 to claim 10.
16 That is, even though claim 6 has been allowed, the Applicants have chosen not to
17 rewrite claim 6 in independent form, but rather to amend claim 6 to depend from claim
18 10, which is now in allowable form. Accordingly, claim 6 is now allowable because it
19 depends from claim 10, which is now in allowable form.

20 The Applicants agree with the Examiner's conclusions regarding patentability,
21 without necessarily agreeing with, or acquiescing in, the Examiner's reasoning. In
22 particular, the Applicants believe that the claims are allowable because the prior art fails
23 to teach, anticipate, or render obvious the invention as claimed, independent of how the
24 invention is paraphrased.

25 Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §112:

Claims 11-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as
being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter
which the Applicants regard as the invention. The Examiner has stated that the

1 language in claims 11-13 is confusing because the functions that are performed in these
2 claims appear to be associated with either one of the first actuator or the second
3 actuator. The Examiner has also stated that the current language "one of the first
4 actuator and the second actuator" appears to be in error since the word "or" seems to
be the proper form.

5 The Applicants have amended each of claims 11-13 to change the word "and" to
6 the word "or" as suggested by the Examiner.

7 However, the Applicants respectfully contend that the meaning of each of claims
8 11-13 is substantially the same regardless of whether the word "or" or the word "and" is
9 used. Specifically, each of claims 11-13 contains the phrase "at least one of," which
10 indicates that actuation of either the first actuator, the second actuator, or both the first
actuator and the second actuator can result in performance of the specified function.

11 Nevertheless, the Applicants contend that the rejection of claims 11-13 under 35
12 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph has been overcome because each of those claims has
13 been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully
14 request that the rejections of claims 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph be
withdrawn.

15 Furthermore, the Applicants contend that claims 11-13 are now allowable
16 because each of those claims depends from claim 10, which is now in allowable form.

17 Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §102:

18 Claims 1 and 16-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being
19 unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,144,976 to Rysti.

20 Claim 1 has been canceled and the rejection of that claim is therefore now moot.

21 Each of claims 16-20 has been amended to now depend from claim 10, which is
22 now in allowable form. Therefore, each of claims 16-20 is now allowable. Accordingly,
23 the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 16-20 under 35 U.S.C.
§102 be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

1 Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §103:

2 Claims 3-5, 7, and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being
3 unpatentable over Rysti.

4 Each of claims 3-5 and 7 have been amended to depend from claim 10, which is
5 now in allowable form. Claim 8 depends from claim 7. Therefore, each of claims 3-5, 7
6 and 8 is now allowable. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the
7 rejection of claims 3-5, 7, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn and the
8 claims allowed.

8 Additional Claims:

9 As a result of various amendments to the claims as set forth hereinabove, the
10 total number of independent claims is now five (5), although the total number of claims
11 remains at twenty (20). Therefore, there are now two (2) additional independent claims
12 in excess of the amount paid for in the original application. Accordingly, a fee for the
13 additional independent claims is included in the check which is enclosed herewith. The
14 amount of the fee for the extra independent claims is set forth on the enclosed fee
15 calculation sheet.

16 Petition for Extension of Time:

17 The Applicants herewith petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
18 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) to extend the time for reply to the Office action dated
19 03/18/2005 by one (1) month from 06/18/2005 to 07/18/2005. Submitted herewith is a
20 check which includes the amount specified on the enclosed fee calculation sheet to
21 cover the cost of the extension.

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SUMMARY

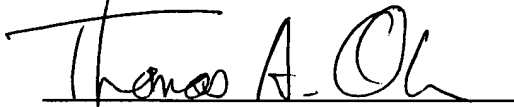
The Applicants believe that this response constitutes a full and complete reply to the Office action mailed 03/18/2005, and the Applicants furthermore request timely allowance of claims 2-21. The below-signed attorney respectfully requests that the Examiner contact him by telephone at the below listed number in the event that the next Office action is anything other than a Notice of Allowance for claims 2-22.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik HUMBLE and Chuck MOLES

Date: July 18, 2005

By:



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